EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
THE UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20508

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H.E. German Gref
Minister
Ministry of Economic Development and Trade
of the Russian Federation

Dear Minister Gref:

Thank you for your letter regarding the tariff treatment of combine harvester-threshers (HS 8433.5100.09) and self-propelled forage harvesters (HS 8433.5911.09). I was pleased to receive your assurances that application of temporary tariff measures on these goods will be terminated beginning March 1, 2007, but in no case later July 1, 2007. I understand that Russia will apply a duty of 5 percent ad valorem to these goods from then until the date on which the Russian Federation becomes a Member of the World Trade Organization (WTO).

I am pleased to accept your assurances on this matter and look forward to working with you to complete the negotiations on Russia's accession to the WTO.

Please accept the assurances of my deepest respect.

Susan C. Schwab

Hanoi "19" November, 2006

Dear Ambassador Schwab!

During the course of the negotiations in connection with the Russian Federation's accession to the World Trade Organization (WTO), the delegations of the Government of the Russian Federation (Russia) and the Government of the United States of America (United States) reached a mutually satisfactory result on tariffs on combine harvester-threshers (HS 8433.5100.09) and self-propelled forage harvesters (HS 8433.5911.09). Upon the Russian Federation's accession to the WTO, tariffs on these goods will be bound at 5 percent *ad valorem* in Russia's Schedule of Concessions on Goods.

Currently these combine harvester-threshers and self-propelled forage harvesters are subject to temporary tariff measures under Decision of the Government of the Russian Federation No. 526 of August 29, 2006. I can inform you that upon the date of signature of our bilateral agreement on Russia's accession to the WTO, the Russian side will take the necessary actions to terminate the application of these temporary tariff measures beginning from March 1, 2007, but in any case not later than from July 1, 2007. Therefore, from that date the duty on combine harvester-threshers (HS 8433.5100.09) and self-propelled forage harvesters (HS 8433.5911.09) will be no higher than 5 percent *ad valorem* during the period until Russia becomes a WTO member.

Please accept, dear Ambassador Schwab, the assurances of my deepest respect.

G. Gref
Minister

Ambassador Susan C. Schwab
United States Trade Representative